

Wilmot Mountain

By Vanessa Day

Located only an hour away from Chicago, Wisconsin's Wilmot Mountain has been a much-frequented Midwest ski destination since its humble beginnings in 1938. As Wilmot Mountain grew in popularity, so did its reign as a successful ski resort, especially when it became one of

the first to introduce "snowmaking." Today, Wilmot is lovingly called the "Matterhorn of the Midwest" and hosts thousands of avid skiers and snowboarders looking to enjoy an entertaining day on the slopes.

Wilmot consists of 25 different trails spread out across 120 acres, all with dynamic terrain that caters to different skill levels. Wilmot Mountain has all kinds of runs, from easy greens for beginners to intense black diamonds for experts, and every level in between. While it is a relatively small resort, it does have a 2,500-foot-long run and a 250 vertical drop that keep visitors satisfied. The mountain also has a Snocross course with plenty of turns, dips and jumps to keep any skier or boarder entertained. There is also a mogul field where the advanced athletes can test their skills as they race through the challenging slope. If that isn't enough to satisfy even the most daring guests, Wilmot boasts four terrain parks with jumps and rails galore to entice all those freestyle riders and skiers. And the fun doesn't stop when the sun goes down. If skiers and boarders didn't get enough action during the day, Wilmot's night skiing is available on the whole hill, so those true winter sports enthusiasts can continue on long into the evening.

For first timers or those looking to improve their skills, Wilmot provides lessons through its award-winning Snow Sports School. Highly skilled and experienced instructors provide lessons daily to both skiers and snowboarders. Guests can sign up for group lessons for as little as \$15, or opt for a one-on-one private lesson for \$55. For those who like to have a companion to learn with, Wilmot also offers semi-private lessons for two people at a reasonable \$65 rate. All instructors have been trained in the PSIA/AASI modules, which let pupils spend more time on the slopes as opposed to the bunny hill. Ski and snowboard lessons are offered for beginner and intermediate levels at various times during the day and they fill up fast, so guests are encouraged to sign up early to make sure they get a spot.



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High-flying fun at Wilmot Mountain

For the little cruisers in your family, Wilmot features Winter Wonderland, a ski-play area specifically designed for children ages 4 to 9. Winter Wonderland combines games with ski fundamentals that teach kids important skills to use on the mountain. Parents don't have to worry about dropping their kids off there; specially trained instructors supervise all activities. There are four unique programs that kids can participate in: Terrain Garden, where kids are introduced to the basics of skiing and snowboarding; Surface Lift Area, where kids take

their skills to the next level with linked turns, speed control, stopping and skier safety; Cruisers, the next level up in the learning process where turns are improved and kids learn to get on and off the chairlift; and Mighty Mites, the highest level for young skiers and riders who feel confident on the chairlift and can control their speed on all kinds of terrain.

Wilmot Mountain prides itself on being a family-friendly resort, offering fun activities on and off the mountain for all to enjoy. After a long day of skiing and snowboarding on the fresh snow of Wilmot, families have plenty to do in the area. Events during the busy winter season include slalom races, live music, karaoke and trivia nights. For a more relaxed evening, families can grab a hot cocoa in the Lodge Bar and curl up next to the fire.

Wilmot does not have lodging on site at the mountain, but there are some great options close by, including the Comfort Inn & Suites in Antioch and Best Western in Kenosha. With its proximity to other major attractions, Wilmot is easily accessible and extremely convenient for Midwest skiers and boarders who are looking for an entertaining day on the slopes.

Contact: wilmotmountain.com



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